

ATZT-MWR-A

SUBJECT: Unattended Minor Children

3. **POLICY.** This policy applies to all civilian and military personnel when on Fort Leonard Wood. A violation of this policy subjects military personnel to disciplinary action under the Uniform Code of Military Justice. Violation of this policy may also subject personnel to criminal prosecution, civil liability, or termination of housing privileges on the installation.

a. Sponsors are responsible for the health, welfare, and safety of minor family members at all times. Sponsors are responsible for ensuring family members comply with the provisions of this policy. The sponsor's chain of command is responsible for the sponsor and family members assigned or attached to their command or agency.

b. In all cases, interpretation of this policy should be made in favor of the child's safety.

c. No child will be left unattended under circumstances involving potential or actual risk to the child's health and safety.

d. Refer to the Age Matrix (**enclosure 1**) for minimum standards for use in making decision involving safety and proper supervision of children.

e. To increase parental choice options, the installation CYS Registration Office will provide information to parents about available on and off post supervised activities and care options (**enclosure 2**).

4. PROCEDURES.

a. Children one to three years of age require close supervision and will be under direct visual contact when awake. The person supervising must be able to respond to any emergency or threatening situation. Periodic checks should be made on sleeping children. Children in this age group will not be left alone at any time.

b. Four to six year olds may play in an appropriately designated safe area but must have immediate access to adult supervision. NOTE: Immediate access is defined as within eyesight or hearing distance and ability to respond within 30 seconds.

c. Children seven to nine years of age can be allowed to explore their environment but must also be afforded protection and therefore must have access to adult supervision. NOTE: Access is defined as having ability to contact a verifiable, prearranged, responsible adult in the immediate quarters area in case of emergency and the sponsor knowing the location of the child.

d. Children left alone in quarters:

(1) Children 10-11 years of age may be left alone for no more than 3 hours during the day or evening.

(2) Children 12-14 years of age may be left alone for no more than 6 hours during the day or evening.